



NEWS RELEASE



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Governor Announces Federal Funds to Protect Critical Infrastructure *Michigan also selected to pilot homeland security database*

Governor Jennifer M. Granholm; Colonel Peter C. Munoz, Director of Michigan Department of State Police; and Major General Thomas G. Cutler, Director of the Michigan Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, today announced that Michigan has received a \$1,945,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to specifically help state and local first responders prepare for and respond to potential security threats at critical infrastructure sites throughout Michigan.

"Michigan continues to be a leader in homeland security and this grant will help us to keep our citizens secure," Granholm said. "Michigan citizens can feel safe knowing that we are prepared for any emergency."

The grant was awarded as part of the Buffer Zone Protection Plan (BZPP) and will be used to protect Michigan sites that are high risk or high consequence. Only four states received more funding from the BZPP program.

"I am pleased the U.S. Department of Homeland Security recognized the varied and important infrastructure we are protecting here in Michigan," remarked Munoz, State Director of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. "Our infrastructure is vital not only to Michigan's economic health, but to international commerce as well."

The BZPP funds are in addition to the more than \$46 million in homeland security grants the state received from the DHS earlier this year.

Cutler, the Adjutant General of the Michigan National Guard, noted the Guard's continuing mission to assist in the evaluation and protection of the state's critical infrastructure by saying, "This grant is further evidence of the great Homeland Security team here in Michigan and of our partnership with the Protective Security Advisors from the Office of Infrastructure Protection. This is a strong team effort by all three agencies."

Michigan was also chosen as one of the first states in the nation to pilot the Constellation Automated Critical Asset Management System (ACAMS). The system is a secure, interoperable, web-based database designed to manage security information for critical infrastructure throughout the state. The ACAMS will be provided to Michigan by the DHS with no cost to the state.

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